Howland Wood - Curatorial

Weber, Shirley Howard
[Dept. of Classics,
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ]

1930-1935

July 17,1930

Professor Shirley H.Weber

Princeton, N.J.

Dear Professor Weber:

I finished attributing your coins some time ago, but I held them here because I understood that you were coming up. Shall I still hold them here or do you wish me to send them to you, and if so, where? There is one coin in duplicate; I am wondering if we could exchange it for some coin you do not have.

Sincerely yours,

Curator.

SHIRLEY H. WEBER
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON, N. J.

Saturday A.M.

Dear Mr. Wood:—

If you will let Mr. Nor have the coins, he will take them home to New Brunswick where I have an engagement to meet him Tuesday night. Please tell Mr. Nor that I expect to come over.

I should like to trade the duplicate coin and suggest that if you have something in the medieval field that you would like to trade, let Mr. Nor have it too, and we will make the exchange at the same time. I can't tell you how

I appreciate your taking this trouble for us.

Very sincerely

Shirley H. Weber

SHIRLEY H. WEBER
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON, N. J.

May 31.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

I send you an S O S with the enclosed letter which has just been sent me by President Hibben. However, the lady's description of the medal is not so bad, and you may be able to do something with it. The mottoes sound very Presbyterian, and Princeton-like. Please tell Mr. Roe that

I have the proof and will get it back to him soon.

Sincerely yours,

Shirley H. Weber.

June 1, 1932.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Department of Classics
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

The medal in question was struck to commemorate the third anniversary of the celebration of the reformation at Geneva, Switzerland, August 13, 1835. It was designed and executed by the die sinker Bovy, a resident of Geneva and famous for his medallic productions. Three sizes were struck. This is known as the largest size and comes in both silver and copper. It is not rare and I doubt if it would bring much of anything.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

G old coin of FERDINAND AND ISABELLA of Spain.

Obv. FERNANDUS ET HELISABET REX ET REGI

Rev. SUB UNBRA ALARVM TVARVM PRO

January 13, 1933.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Department of Classics
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

As regards the gold coin of Ferdinand and Isabella, I think you would have to pay around $12.00 for one if you should try to buy one. Although it is not a rare coin it is fairly popular and the piece Prof. Mchale offers you appears to be in excellent shape. Most of them come slightly bent or worn.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

SHIRLEY H. WEBER
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON, N. J.

May 20, 1933.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

I am preparing a short synopsis of the coins found at Antioch last year, for publication in the Fall. There are about fifty of them that are giving me trouble, and perhaps a glance from you would settle the difficulty.

I should like to see you before you get away for the summer, if possible on a day when Mr. Howell is to be there as well. I am pretty much tied up this week, but after that will be free until the week of the second to seventh - after that free again.

With kindest good wishes,

Shirley Weber.

May 22, 1933.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Department of Classics
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

I will be here most of the time until the middle of August and would be glad to see you at any time. Mondays and Saturdays I am liable to be away. Tuesdays and Wednesdays I plan to always be here. However, it is just as well if you could let me know a day or so in advance.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

SHIRLEY H. WEBER
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON, N. J.

June 16.

Dear Mr. Wood:—

The enclosed six coins are the last of the Antioch lot that I fail to identify, and I cry to you for assistance.

Now, about getting them back. If you could send them to me by mail, I should be grateful. Mr. Hoe has a dollar I sent him some time ago to cover postage of this sort; I don't think it is used up yet.

I am in no hurry for the elephants, if I can get them by the end of September, and if you will give me a memorandum of their numbers. The others I would like as soon as convenient for you, as I am putting the report into final shape.

Many thanks for your trouble and good wishes for the journey.

numbers keeping

√1
159
1541
158
615
156
1547 L
1639 B
no number
1516 B
1395
1514
1607
367
1472 (L)
1428
1315 L

OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY

TELEPHONE
AUDUBON 2484

MUSEUM OPEN
10 - 5, WEEK-DAYS
1 - 5, SUNDAYS

LIBRARY OPEN
10 - 5, WEEK-DAYS

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
BROADWAY, BETWEEN 155TH
AND 156TH STREETS
NEW YORK

June 19, 1933.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Department of Classics
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

Your letter just at hand and I have attributed the best I could the six coins you have just sent me. These with the others, except those with the elephants on them, I am returning under separate cover by parcel post. The numbers that I am keeping are as follows:

51	1546 B
157	1395
1541	1514
158	1607
615	367
156	1422 (L)
1547 L	1428
1639 B	1015 L
no number	

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON NEW JERSEY

Department of Classics

June 26, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood
American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 155th Street
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Many thanks for sending along the box of coins which arrived safely, also for sending the list of those which you still have. I told Professor Elderkin of your interest in the coins of elephant type and he was much pleased that you wished to study them further. If you wish to write an article of them it will be possible. I am preparing a report on all the coins of the expedition which I plan to have ready for him by the end of September to be included in the general report of the excavations. If you have something ready by that time to go in with the rest it would be very well. If you prefer to publish the coins separately, that would be satisfactory also I am sure. I imagine that Mr. Elderkin would like to send all the coins back to Syria before the end of autumn, in which case you may wish to make casts of them before returning them.

Again with many thanks, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Shirley H. Weber.

S.H. Weber.

June 30, 1933.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Department of Classics
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

Up to date I have made no headway on those copper coins I am retaining and I doubt if I can, as they show absolutely nothing more than on Shear's coins and I could make nothing out of those and in fact no one else has been able to. I have photographed them and any time you want them back you can have them.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON NEW JERSEY

Department of Classics

July 10th, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood
American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 155th Street
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

I find I will not be able to get to New York for sometime and would appreciate it if you could find the time to send me part of the coins which you have, if you are finished with them. I should suggest that you take casts or photographs of all that you may possibly need for study, as Mr. Elderkin intends to send them all back to Syria in the fall.

With many thanks, I am

Sincerely yours,

S. H. Weber

Shirley H. Weber.

July 12, 1933.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Department of Classics
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

In reply to your letter of July 10th I am sending you under separate cover the remaining coins from the Antioch dig. I have photographed these as I wrote you previously.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

SHIRLEY H. WEBER
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON, N. J.

Memo to Mr. Wood:

Wanted: information about the Stone Mountain half-dollar, 1925.

S.H.W.

✓ coined 2 3/4 709 [illegible]

November 20, 1933.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Dept. of Classics
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

The other day Mr. Newell handed me the following from you. "A memorandum to Mr. Good: Wanted information about the Stone Mountain half dollar 1925". The following from the report of the Director of the Mint, Washington 1925 gives the cheif details.

"The Stone Mountain half dollar was issued in commemoration of the commencement of the work of carving on Stone Mountain, in the State of Georgia, a monument to the valor of the soldiers of the South. The obverse of the coinsshows equestrian figures of Gen. Robert E. Lee and Gen. Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson reviewing the Confederate armies. The motto, "In God We Trust" appears at the top of the coin, and to the left the legend "Stone Mountain, 1925". The reverse bears an eagle emblematic of liberty, poised on a mountain crag, with a background of stars dimly visible, together with the inscriptions "United States of America," "E Pluribus Unum," and the denomination of the coin. Five millions of these pieces were authorized. The design is the work of Gutzon Borglum."

Of the five million authorized 2,314,709 were coined. This large number the Committee in charge of the carving of Stone Mountain had great difficulty in getting rid of. They were to be sold to the public at $1.00 each, but the Committee sold them to disbributors for whatever they could get over fifty cents. Each Chamber of Commerce throughout the country banks, and large institutions were virtually sand-bagged into buying numbers of these. The southern railroads passed them out in change on their diners and the price of $1.00 could not be maintained. These can be bought today of any dealer for about seventy-five cents.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

SHIRLEY H. WEBER
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON, N. J.

Dear Mr. Wood: —

The pictures are enclosed herewith. The remaining coins (10) are coming under separate cover.

In photographing them, would it be possible to number them with a small figure, 1 to 15 placed under each one in case of the necessity of reference later?

Very sincerely
Shirley H. Weber.

December 15, 1933.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

Under separate cover I am returning the coins you sent to be photographed and am enclosing herewith the photographs. I have made two sets of prints of the 1932 Antioch puzzlers and from these you can pick out a fairly uniform set for reproduction if you so desire. I am also returning with the other coins the three Vanluke coins and the lead seal. Photographs of these are enclosed, but you do not need to send these to Mabbott as he was around here last night at the meeting and I gave him a set.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

March 12, 1934.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

We are returning herewith the coins by parcel post insured, all attributed.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON NEW JERSEY

Department of Classics

September 21, 1934.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Professor E.R. Caley of our Chemistry Department has been conducting a series of interesting experiments on different ways of cleaning and polishing silver coins. His article is about to appear in the January number of Technical Studies.

The Editor of the periodical thinks that it would be much improved by a plate of cuts showing the results of the different processes. I am enclosing the coins in question, together with a plan of arrangement on the plate, and ask whether you can have a photograph of the coins made. Mr. Caley hopes that the photographs would show the differences in texture as a result of the different cleaning processes. If you think that this is impossible, I would suggest that you send the coins back immediately with a word to that effect to him directly in care of the University. Of course, he will be willing to take care of any expense that is incurred if you will send him a memorandum of it.

I trust that your summer was pleasant. For my part I had a splendid summer in the Aegean among the Greek islands. Please tell Mr. Mosser to forward the letter about which he wrote me to the care of Spink & Sons, London. I expect to send you in a few days for the Library a reprint of my recent article on the coins found in the expeditions at Antioch in 1932.

With best wishes to you all,

Very sincerely,

Shirley H. Weber

September 27, 1934.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Department of Classics
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

Your letter came while I was away but Mr. Robertson opened it and has photographed the coins. I have sent the coins and prints to Prof. Caley as a little explaining had to be done concerning these. I am glad you had a good summer - mine was more or less broken up on account of several trips away and bad weather in the latter part. Trusting to see you before long, I remain

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON NEW JERSEY

Department of Classics

November 30, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood
American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 155th Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wood:

You may perhaps remember that about five years ago I brought up to the Numismatic Society a number of divination-bones and Chinese coins of very ancient date of the spade, knife and round type. Mr. Reilly looked them over and gave me some valuable pointers about them at the time.

This material has recently been definitely left to us, and as Mr. Reilly is unfortunately no longer with us, I am asking whether you can give us the name of anyone who could furnish us with bibliography or other material that would throw light on these ancient things.

We have Lacouperie's book but nothing else. Mr. Gerould is hoping to get aid from the Congressional Library and perhaps to find some graduate student who knows Chinese who would wish to work on these things. Any suggestions you can make will I am sure be of the greatest value.

I am wondering whether Mr. Newell is sick? I wrote him quite awhile ago asking if the Society has any bibliography on the chemical analysis or cleaning of coins. Our Professor Caley here has gathered together data from the side of the scientific journals and is interested in making it complete by adding material from other journals. Mr. Newell has not answered my letter, hence my inquiry.

With best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Shirley H. Weber

Shirley H. Weber.

December 6, 1934.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

I am afraid I cannot help you much on the divination bones and the only book worthwhile on the spade and knife coins is Lacouperie which you have. I have forgotten whether the coins were bronze or made of some whitish metal that looked something like celluloid. I know a lot of these were brought in with some inscribed bones. They are of this latter medium, and as far as I know there has been nothing written about them. There has been much written on the inscribed bones. The Congressional Library ought to be able to help you out. If not, you might write to L. Carrington Goodrich, Columbia University or to Roswell S. Britton, 130 W. 110th St., New York City. Either may be able to advise you. Mr. Roswell has been in the country ever since last spring and I know for a fact that he has not done as much letter writing as he should.

I do not think we have much of any bibliography of the chemical analysis of the cleaning of coins. I will ask Noe and let you know later. We have depended largely on Prof. Wm. Campbell of the School of Mines, Columbia University. I think he has been working on this subject, as well as Finke of Columbia. How much they would let out I have no idea.

Very truly yours,

HP:JG

Curator

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON NEW JERSEY

Department of Classics

January 3, 1935.

Mr. Howland Wood
American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 155th Street
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Our coin collection has now begun to exceed our storage capacity and I am anxious to find some steel cabinet that I can use to store new accessions and coins that I wish to work on with the class as laboratory material.

I suppose that your cabinets are specially made to order but I imagine that the firm from whom you got them would have steel cabinets in stock with narrow drawers suitable for storing coins. We also wish such a cabinet that could be easily moved to the new library, whenever that materializes, and are avoiding putting old fashioned wooden shelves for that reason. Could you direct me to a firm that would have suitable steel cabinets in stock?

With best wishes for the New Year, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Shirley H. Weber

Shirley H. Weber.

January 4, 1935.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Department of Classics
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

I doubt very much if you can get any steel cabinets with shallow drawers unless you have them made to order. Our first ones were made by the Art Metal Construction Company of Jamestown, N. Y.. At that time they made several cabinets for other museums and probably have the dies for making the shallow drawers. Our last cabinets, made four or five years ago, were made by the Steel Equipment Corporation. These were considerably cheaper but are not quite as good as the Art Metal ones. I think both concerns would be glad to quote you prices.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON NEW JERSEY

Department of Classics

February 11, 1935.

Mr. Howland Wood
American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 155th Street
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Dr. Clemens Bosch of Halle has asked me to supply him with casts of the coins we have of Ancyra and the coin on Koinon of Galatia. I find that we have only one that will interest him, and as my means of making good casts are at present rather meager, I am wondering whether you will not making some for him also and would be willing to make one of our coin, which I am enclosing herewith, and send it along to him with your lot.

If this is very inconvenient, please do not hesitate to let me know and send the coin back to me. Our coin does not seem to be published either in the British Museum or in the larger catalogues. The radiate head on the obverse does not seem to occur frequently.

With best wishes and thanking you in advance for your trouble,

Very sincerely yours,

Shirley H. Weber

Shirley H. Weber.

February 16, 1935.

Prof. Shirley H. Weber
Department of Classics
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

Please pardon the delay in answering your letter but I was very busy last week with a sale. I am herewith sending you casts of the coin together with the coin. I am very glad to be able to do this for you.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON NEW JERSEY

Department of Classics

May 23, 1935.

Mr. Howland Wood
American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 155th Street
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

There has recently come into the possession of the University a silver medal, the gift of one of the Southern Alumni Societies, and as our literature on the subject of early American medals is scanty, I am appealing to you for identification. The medal has a raised laurel-leaf in raised border, is 45 mm. in width, on the obverse

To
Henry Lee
for Valour
& Patriotiſm

and the reverse

Waſhington &
Independence
1775-1783

It is probably unique but if you can give me a book reference, I should be very grateful.

Yours sincerely,

S. H. Weber
D.

Shirley H. Weber.

May 29, 1935.

Prof. Shirely H. Weber
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Prof. Weber:

The Henry Lee medal you write about is new to me and I cannot find any reference. It apparently is not a governmental medal but one privately given to him. You do not state whether the wording on it is engraved or die struck.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator